Testimony prepared for the Finance Committee on

Senate Bill 887

February 25, 2020 Position: **Favorable**

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of caring for the blessings of the living environment.. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are a faith community of congregations in three ELCA synods, located in every part of the State.

Our community began its journey in care of creation in 1993 ("Caring for Creation," ELCA) when we identified greenhouse gas emissions as an environmental threat.

We've supported expansion of renewables in Maryland's energy portfolio and the retirement of coal-fired power generation. Our intent was to advance our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the resulting environmental threat.

Senate Bill 887 would cap CO₂ emissions on specific generating units now in service, a goal we support. It will also assist making that policy practicable by an administrative revision to ease the loss of these units in their subdivision economies and their workforces.

We ask a favorable report. Thank you for your hearing.

Lee Hudson